



PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER: 00786/361003

Certificate of Mailing: Date of Deposit: February 25, 2002

I hereby certify under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **first class mail** with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Guy Beardsley

Printed name of person mailing correspondence

Guy E Beardsley

Signature of person mailing correspondence

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Frederick M. Ausubel et al.

Art Unit: 1631

Serial No.: 09/975,719

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: October 10, 2001

Customer No.: 21559

Title: VIRULENCE-ASSOCIATED NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES AND
USES THEREOF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, kindly consider the following amendments and remarks.

In the specification:

Replace the paragraph on page 2, lines 20 through page 5, line 21 of the specification with the following paragraph that has been re-written in clean form.

In one aspect, the invention features an isolated nucleic acid molecule including a sequence substantially identical to any one of *BI48* (SEQ ID NO:1), ORF2 (SEQ ID NO:2), ORF3 (SEQ ID NO:4), ORF602c (SEQ ID NO:6), ORF214 (SEQ ID NO:8), ORF1242c (SEQ ID NO:10), ORF594 (SEQ ID NO:12), ORF1040 (SEQ ID NO:14), ORF1640c (SEQ ID NO:16), ORF2228c (SEQ ID NO:18), ORF2068c (SEQ ID NO:20), ORF1997 (SEQ ID NO:22),